

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 734

By Davis L

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Oneida High
School football coach, Jim May.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and deep regret that Oneida High School athletic fans, Tennessee sports fans, everyone who enjoys watching great teams compete, and the members of this body learned of the death of one of the all-time Tennessee high school gridiron greats, Oneida High School football coach, James E. "Jim" May; and

WHEREAS, as he would have wished, he died while coaching the game he dearly loved; and

WHEREAS, he left this world for a far better existence during the Cosby-Oneida game at M. E. Thompson Field; and

WHEREAS, the highly regarded Coach May had served as the head football coach at Oneida longer than any other coach in school history; and

WHEREAS, Coach May was a United States Army veteran, a respected and beloved teacher, an adept and inspirational coach, and an astute administrator; and

WHEREAS, his illustrious coaching career also included successful tenures at Petersburg and Cornersville, in Tennessee and in Crossville, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Coach May is the winningest coach in school history, with an impressive 146-56 records; and

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WHEREAS, his football teams made the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association state playoffs 12 times; and

WHEREAS, his excellent post-season record was 20-12; and

WHEREAS, his fabled 1992 team won Oneida's first state championship; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, 1994, and 1997, Coach May's teams reached the coveted state playoff Final Four; and

WHEREAS, he also expertly coached the Oneida High School girls' basketball team leading the Lady Indians to the state tournament during his first season; and

WHEREAS, his great overall coaching record was 224-101, a winning percentage of .690; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Mary Ann Cummings May and his mother, Allison May; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his second wife, Patty Miller May; two sons, Jimmy and Richard; and his granddaughter, Amanda May, all of Oneida; and

WHEREAS, during his brilliant 17-year career at Oneida High School, Coach May witnessed and participated in numerous changes and improvements in education, he helped educate the community about the needs of the school system, in the areas of both athletics and education; and

WHEREAS, he also played a significant role in the improvement of the school system, its personnel and its facilities; and

WHEREAS, Coach May's death marks the end of an era at Oneida High School and he will be sorely missed by the many people who have benefited from his presence and influence; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Coach Jim May and express our deepest condolences to his family and friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.